



American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy

MONTHLY



NEWS

FEATURE STORY STYMIE !

THE LIBRARY
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
PACIFIC LUTHERAN

A special committee has been set up by the Jordan government to consider the dispute between the Arab-speaking and Greek-speaking Greek Orthodox over the election of a new Patriarch of Jerusalem to succeed the late Patriarch Timotheos. (see AREO, April, 1956 for full report).

The committee, headed by Jordan's Interior Minister, was named after all political parties in Jordan had telegraphed King Hussein urging that an Arab-speaking Patriarch be elected to the post.

In a nomination, it is felt, would be in accordance with the wishes of the Orthodox community in Jordan. The Greek-speaking clergy have controlled the Patriarchate for centuries.

In April, the Holy Synod of the Patriarchate rejected a request from the government that the election be postponed until after the church regulations had been changed to allow non-clergymen to be eligible for the post.

Present, all members of the Holy Synod of the Greeks. The Synod said it was agreed to discussing greater Arab participation in the administration of the Patriarchate, but only after a patriarch had been elected, in order that he might preside over discussions.

Hussein, following the appointment of

the special committee, then designated September 7th, 1956 as the date on which an election of the patriarch would take place.

This move elicited such a controversy that it, in turn, was called off lest an open rift break out between the hierarchy and the lower clergy. Thus, for the second time this year, the election of the patriarch has been indefinitely postponed. (A similar situation existed for three years in the early 1930's before it was settled with the election of the late Patriarch.)

Looking to possible successors to the Patriarchate when the election is held, it is held in some circles that the most logical person will be that of Archimandrite Kyriakos Spyridonides.

Known to the Arabs of Jerusalem as 'Abu Fokara' ('Father of the Poor'), because of his efforts to aid the war refugees of the Palestinian conflict of 1948, the Archimandrite has been active in the clergy since 1913, when he was ordained a deacon. Born on the Isle of Samos in 1888, he was sent to Jerusalem as a small boy to live with his brother, who was architect in charge of the Holy Sepulchre.

Educated at the Patriarchal School in Jerusalem, as well as the English preparatory school, he then attended the School of Commercial Studies in Athens, returning to Jerusalem once more, in 1912. With his immediate studies behind him, he was ordained a priest in 1917 and appointed an

(Continued on page 2)

Archimandrite in 1924 and made a member of the Holy Synod. The Synod appointed him as its representative on the Board of Higher Studies for Palestine. In 1926 he was appointed to the Financial Committee, charged with the immense problem of liquidating the debts which the Patriarchate had incurred, largely by its charitable work during World War I. By diplomatic reasoning, he was able to bring an harmonious solution to the vexing circumstances surrounding the financial negotiations and finally to bring them to a conclusion acceptable to all parties.

In 1927 he was appointed Custodian of the Holy Sepulchre, an extremely delicate position, inasmuch as it requires constant negotiation between the various religious bodies which share the control of the building. (Roman Catholic, Armenian and Greek Orthodox occupy the structure, each having their own Altars, more or less side-by-side within the common area) It has often been said that such a responsibility calls for the proverbial 'patience of Job', what with alterations, fights, beatings and political jealousies which are rife among the factions. However, largely as a result of his work, the extensive repairs, which the cathedral has so long needed, can now, at last, be made.

In spite of his career, with its important facets, and of his extensive travels and fluency of five languages, he has remained a man of personal simplicity, very pronounced frankness and good will. The Greeks feel his election will presage an era of harmony among all bodies, factions and peoples in Palestine and Old Jerusalem.

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Address the publication office:

American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy
215 West 69th Street, N.Y. 23, N.Y.

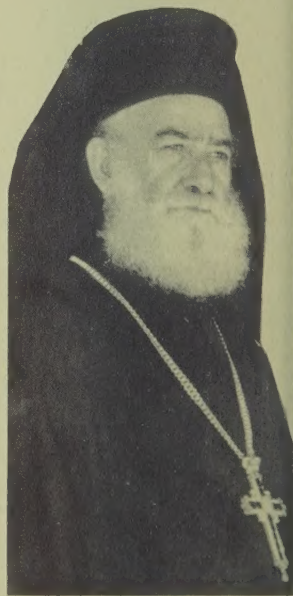
American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy is published monthly (except July and August) by the Eastern Orthodox Catholic Church in America at New York, N. Y. **Vol. II No. VII September 1956**

Second-class mail privileges authorized at New York, New York.
Member of the Religious News Service.

AREO is dedicated to the advancement of the Faith of the Fathers, interpreted in accordance with the needs of a progressing American Life.

Publication Committee: Rev. Gregory Adair, Chairman; George Nakulak, Secretary; Sarah Florio, Treasurer.

Subscription is \$3.00 per year (\$1.00 additional for subscriptions outside U.S.A.), payable to American Review of Eastern Orthodoxy, 215 West 69th Street, New York 23, N. Y.



Archimandrite Spyridonide



Back up your opinions with facts - read *AREO* !

AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE CHURCH

Foreign



BULGARIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH SEEKS to heal rift with Ecumenical Patriarchate. The three year old breach occurred in May, 1953, when Orthodox leaders in Sofia elected a new Patriarch without consent of the Ecumenical Patriarch. By this action, they proclaimed the Bulgarian Church an independent body and no longer an exarchate subject to the authority of

the Ecumenical Patriarchate. The Bulgarian Church had been an exarchate of the Ecumenical Patriarchate since 1870. (An exarchate exercises jurisdiction in ecclesiastical matters on behalf of a patriarch, in a particular country or territory).

Patriarch Cyril of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church has acknowledged that his Church was heavily backed by the Russian Orthodox Church in its separation move. This was disclosed in the current issue of Tserkoven Vestnik (Christian Herald), official Bulgarian Orthodox magazine.

The Ecumenical Patriarch has received a letter from Patriarch Cyril requesting a healing of the rift and for re-establishment of relations. The matter reportedly has been referred to the canonical committee of the Holy Synod in Istanbul for study.

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500 ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS MEMBERS OF PRO-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION of Yugoslavia. The Society of SS Cyril and Methodius claimed that over half of the Roman priests in Slovenia are members. The claim was made by officials of the Society at a press conference. According to press reports, the Society received government grants this year of \$50,000, with many Society branches receiving rent-free rooms for offices and libraries.

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News-Letter FROM THE PATRIARCHATE OF ALEXANDRIA tells of the effort of Bishop Parthenios of Pelusium to usurp the powers of the sick Patriarch Christophoros II. Last March, the Patriarch delegated Metropolitan (Bishop) Parthenios to act in his place, together with his colleagues of the Holy Synod. This was done because of the Patriarch's extreme illness. In the latter part of May, these Holy Fathers were called into a Synod and in the course of a fortnight passed various decisions. Archimandrite Methodios Foughios, Chief Secretary, acted as Secretary to the Synod. In the meantime, the Patriarch recovered sufficiently to see what had happened and stated it had been done without his permission. Now, the 81 year old venerable Patriarch comes regularly to the Patriarchate, but has to sit in the Grand Salle, while Parthenios of Pelusium inhabits his office. This clash of powers is quite distressing, for the Patriarch is still Patriarch.

Meanwhile, the Patriarch of Moscow has sent a substantial donation of monies to Christophoros for his succor and aid. The Patriarch Christophoros sent his gratitude to Alexei and informed him he is dispatching Archimandrite Callixtus Moussikidis as his exarch to Odessa.

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RECENT TRAVELLERS OF ORTHODOX CHURCHES WHO HAVE ARRIVED IN MOSCOW include:

- i. A Syrian Orthodox nun, Mother Maria, Superior of a convent in Sednaya. She is believed to be the first foreign nun officially invited to the Soviet. She is to study activities of the Russian Church and visit a number of Russian Orthodox convents.
- ii. Syrian Orthodox Bishop Niphon Saba, Metropolitan of Zakhle, Lebanon. The bishop arrived from Communist China where he toured the country at the invitation of the Chinese 'peace committee'. He gave speeches there praising the 'warm friendship' of China for the Arab States.
- iii. Syrian Orthodox Metropolitan Boulos el-Khouri of Tyre and Sidon. The Lebanese prelate arrived as a guest of Patriarch Alexei and was met at the airport by Metropolitan Nikolai of Krutitsky and Kolomna. Metropolitan Boulos was the third Lebanese Orthodox leader to visit Russia in recent weeks; the first was Bishop Iliya al Salibi of Beirut.
- iv. Metropolitan Jan, newly-elected head of the Orthodox Church of Czechoslovakia.
- v. A delegation of the Syrian Antiochian Orthodox Church arrived August 15th for a two week tour.
- vi. A large group of Russian Orthodox delegates from parishes in Western Europe. None were identified; but their purpose was stated to be that of familiarizing themselves with the activities of the Church in the USSR and with the economic and cultural life there.

FIRST ARGENTINE SYRIAN ARCHBISHOP takes up his post in Buenos Aires. Archbishop Malatius Sweity, a native of Damascus, Syria arrived in Argentine to serve as the first Syrian Orthodox Archbishop of Argentina. He was consecrated in Damascus recently on his return there from a lengthy stay in the U.S., where he served a Syrian parish in Flint, Michigan. Prior to his consecration he held the rank of archimandrite.

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FRENCH-CANADIANS REPORTED JOINING PROTESTANT CHURCH IN LARGE NUMBERS A survey by the French-Canadian Education Ass'n. of Ontario reported that 60,000 out of some 477,000 French-speaking Canadians in Ontario have registered as non-Catholics. The survey estimates that the United Church of Canada has received 25,000 of these; the Anglican Church 17,000; the Presbyterian Church 6,000; and the Baptist churches over 4,000.

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ANCIENT CHURCH FOUND NEAR CORINTH, when a farmer accidentally ran his plow into the buried remains of a 4th century Basilica. Immediate excavations have revealed one of the largest such basilicas in all Greece. Over 300 feet by 200 feet in size. The church has been identified with the legend of St. Leonidis. He and seven women were drowned by the Romans in the Gulf of Corinth off Lecheon. Their bodies were washed ashore and a church was later erected over their remains. This story has been recorded in a document found in the Aegean Island of Patmos and recently studied. (This identification of this site as that of St. Leonidis is still speculative however).



• All the environs of Corinth are rich vineyards and sites of early Christian worship. Some of the springs that were there are reputed to have had miraculous healing powers. ED.

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FORMATION OF A EUROPEAN ECUMENICAL FELLOWSHIP OF CHOIRS IN WORSHIP to 'revive and renew the liturgy' and promote 'a deep spirit of Church unity' was embarked upon at a conference in Bremen, Germany recently with choir masters from Anglican, Lutheran, Reformed, and United Churches in England, France, Netherlands and Germany participating.



Plans were initiated for the holding of a meeting of boy's choirs from the churches of the various denominations at Uppsala, Sweden during Easter of 1958.

• An example of what can also be done in these United States. ED.

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WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES MEMBERSHIP INCREASES with three new applications being received from the Baptist Church of Hungary, The Anglican Church of the Province of Central Africa, and the German Evangelical La Plata Synod of Argentina.

• The World Council presently embraces 162 Protestant and Eastern Orthodox Churches in 47 different countries. ED.

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ERNEST HEMINGWAY GIVES NOBEL MEDAL TO CUBAN SAINT'S SHRINE. The medal was presented Sept. 8th to the Shrine of Our Lady of Charity of Cobre, at Santiago de Cuba. The medal had been awarded Hemingway for his book 'The Old Man and The Sea', which had as its locale the sea village of Cojimar. He lives, himself, in San Francisco de Paula.

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AMERICAN BIBLE SCHOLAR LECTURES IN TURKEY. Dr. William F. Albright, famed Bible scholar and archaeologist, commenced a three months lecture program in Turkey on Sept. 15th, at the bequest and under the auspices of the U.S. Dep't. of State. He will discuss such subjects as the Dead Sea Scrolls and archaeological finds in Syria and Arabia. His visit is a part of the State Dep't. International Educational Exchange Program.

Cornerstone Laid for New Piraeus Cathedral by Archbishop Dorotheos
Athens. The new structure will replace a cathedral destroyed in a bombing raid by Allied
planes on Jan. 11, 1944, when Greece was under Axis occupation. The new structure will carry
the same name as that of the one destroyed: Cathedral of the Holy Trinity.

Bodies of some 20 people who had fled to the church for refuge from the raid were found
near the ruins.

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Three New Bishops Consecrated in Crete at the metropolitan church of St. Minas.
The congregation included Greek Minister of Cults Achilleus Gerokostopoulos and many eccles-
iastical dignitaries.

The new prelates are Bishops Demetrius Papoutsakis of Petras, Isidoros Bourliakis of Lambis
Sfakia, and Timotheos Rousocharakis of Arcadia. These Bishops are under the spiritual
jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Istanbul, even though the island of Crete is in
Greek territory.

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Dead Sea Scroll Reported Found about a mile from the caves where the highly
valued Dead Sea Scrolls were found in 1947. The scroll was turned up by an Arab and is said
to contain the five books of the Pentateuch - Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.

Local police and officials have been keeping a close watch on all such discoveries, ever since
Roland de Vaux informed them he had discovered a recently rifled cave, which may well
have contained an important cache of scrolls hidden by the ascetic Essene sect. The clergyman
said there were indications that the cave had been entered only a few days before he examined
it. He said numerous wrappings and scraps of parchment were found, thus showing that there
must have been a number of scrolls.

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Virgin Birth Controversy Stirs British Public when the Sunday Pictorial with a
circulation of some millions of readers advertised for mothers who claim virgin births for
their children. Of the claimants, one Mrs. Emmimarie Jones was medically and clinically exam-
ined and tested for six months by prominent British doctors, who stated that medically the child
Mrs. Jones indicated a virgin birth.

As reported in the N.Y. World Telegram, scientist Dr. Spruway of London's University College
summed up her views in the following points:

A natural virgin birth in humans would result in a daughter, as only the male produces the two
kinds of sex-determining cells.

A skin-graft can determine whether a virgin birth has occurred.

A male seed is not necessary to produce an offspring, as many different stimuli will cause an
egg to begin development.

Experiments with fish(guppies) has proven that they produce only female offspring when they
are isolated from the opposite sex. The guppies being the first vertebrates in which virgin
birth has been discerned.

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Fire Brigade of Monks Formed in Jerusalem's Church of Holy Sepulchre
The architects warned that the 12th century edifice is a serious fire hazard. Roman Catholic,
Greek Orthodox and Armenian monks who jointly administer the church will form the volunteer
fire brigade, with the office of fire chief rotating monthly among them.

Located at the site of Christ's tomb, the church dates from the time of the Crusades. It was
severely damaged by earthquake in 1927 and by fire in 1949 and was additionally weakened by
exceptionally heavy rains two years ago. Plans are being mapped to restore the building and the
British government, which has jurisdiction over Jerusalem's Old City, commissioned architects
from six nations last year to survey the basilica and report their recommendations.

Something to get steamed up over. **ED.**

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HEAD OF RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN CHINA TRANSFERRED TO SIBERIA. Archbishop Victor will succeed Metropolitan Bartholomew of Nov-Sibirsky, who died June 1st at the age of 92. A Russian citizen and known for his strong pro-Soviet sentiments, Victor became a center of controversy in 1946, prior to the Communist seizure of power, when he was arrested by Chinese military police on charges of being a Communist agent. He was released within a week, however, following protests by the Russian embassy in Nanking.

● Proof of the intermingling of religion and communism in action; even as reported by the N.Y. Herald Tribune columnist Herbert A. Philbrick. - "...bishops in many churches in the Soviet Union are counter-intelligence officers, trained in seminaries set up for that purpose by the M.V.D." ED.

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ARCHBISHOP DOROTHEOS OF ATHENS ARRIVED IN BELGRADE FOR A TWO WEEK visit, at the express invitation of Patriarch Vikentije of the Serbian Orthodox Church. Four Metropolitans are accompanying the Archbishop, along with several other lesser clergy. The delegation will visit monasteries in Serbia and Macedonia, and will be taken on a tour of the country's industrial areas. Archbishop Dorotheos is returning a visit paid him, in Greece, last year by Patriarch Vikentije.

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1st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LUTHER RESEARCH MEETS AT COPENHAGEN at the University of Aarhus. Eighty Protestant scholars from 18 countries, including the U.S., convened under the auspices of the Lutheran World Federation, with Bishop Hans Lilje of Hanover, Germany presiding.

Considerable discussion was devoted to reports on Lutheran research work in different parts of the world. The conferees were told that studies of Luther's life and work is being conducted not only in Germany and Scandinavia, but also in the U.S., Great Britain, Italy and Hungary by scholars from many confessions other than Lutheran, even by Roman Catholic experts.

Papers were read dealing with Luther's doctrine on sanctification, ecclesiology and his interpretation of Holy Scripture. It was explained to those present that the research findings will not be immediately available to local churches, as the highest scholarly level will be maintained throughout the world and this takes time.

Meanwhile in London, the Lutheran World Federation budget meeting of the Commission on World Service voted to grant \$8,600 for the purpose of aiding in the financing of a translation into French of ten volumes of the major works of Luther. It acted in response to a request from two Lutheran Churches in France, that stated there are no current works available in French which give a correct and accurate account of Luther or his works. A Swiss publishing firm will underwrite the entire costs of publication itself.

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EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE ON THREE GREEK ISLANDS IN THE AEGEAN SEA tell of complete destruction of the 300 year-old Orthodox monastery of Elijah the Prophet on Santor (Thera). On Patmos, the island of S. John's Revelation, the historic and picturesque Orthodox monastery and church of S. John was badly damaged. Four churches were damaged on Paros, including the church of Katopiliani famous for its 99 doors. Dozens of other Orthodox churches and chapels scattered throughout the islands were damaged to a slight degree.

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GREEK WOMAN CLAIMS RECOVERY OF SIGHT WHILE PRAYING IN CHURCH of the Ascension at Examilia, a village near Corinth. The woman, Mrs. Evangelia A. Zagris, 49 years old blind mother of two children, said she was praying on her knees in front of an icon of St. Paraskevi, when her sight was restored. The alleged cure was reported to have caused a sensation among other members of the congregation. The next day hundreds of people came from nearby villages to venerate the icon. Mrs. Zagris had been blind for ten years.

● St. Paraskevi was one of a group of early Christians, who, according to Greek tradition, were martyred in Rome. ED.

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HOP LEONTY, RUSSIAN ORTHODOX PRELATE OF SWITZERLAND DIES at the age 12. The Bishop came to Geneva from Yugoslavia in 1943 and two years later became the head of Switzerland's substantial community of Russian emigres. He was affiliated with the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia, which is an excommunicate body (by the Moscow Patriarchate) which functions almost entirely among Czarist emigres, who fled Russia at the Revolution. Its headquarters are in N.Y.C.

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NEW FRENCH CHURCH TO BE BUILT IN SHAPE OF SKULL CAP. A ultra-modern church is under construction in Chambéry, France and has a floor plan of a perfect circle with low walls supporting a domed roof. The interior is to be like an amphitheatre with all seats converging to the altar. No worshipper will be more than fifty feet from the altar. The belfry is in a separate structure at the right of the church entrance with a needle-topped spire being surmounted by a cross. The church will be the Roman Catholic Church of St. John Bosco.



Ease of participation in liturgical worship is of great importance and much can be learned by observing what various church architects produce throughout the world. ED.

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ARMENIAN-AMERICANS ARRIVE IN SOVIET ARMENIA for a visit to the newly elected Catholicos Vasken I who was elected last October. The twelve men and seven women are from the California Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

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HERANS TO BUILD \$430,000 CENTER IN HONG KONG. The construction will start at the end of this year and will include a church, parish hall, parsonage and secondary school. The site will be provided by the Hong Kong government.

Lutheran World federation's Commission on World Missions approved the project. Financial support will come from Lutheran Church bodies and also from an interest free loan from the Hong Kong government.

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SEE PRIEST INITIATES FIRST ENGLISH CHILD CONVERT IN 3,000 YEARS, as the 12-year-old daughter of a Protestant mother and a Parsee father entered into the worshipping faith of Zoroaster. The initiation of Zenobia Colabawala occurred in London.

Zoroaster was a Persian Teacher of the 6th Century B.C. - The worship and reverence of fire as the Divine Flame is a principle factor in the Parsee Faith. The burial custom of these people also has its curious point, in that all followers are placed in Towers of Silence, to which flocks of vultures descend to consume the remains. The practice is mostly confined to India. ED.

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WORLD PRESBYTERIAN ALLIANCE VOTES FUNDS FOR THEOLOGICAL PROGRAM. The Alliance's executive committee, meeting in Prague, stated that such a program may lead to the development of 'new statements of the Christian Faith, reformed according to the Word of God, and the common confession of the churches and the people'.

\$100,000 was also allocated to aid in the translating into Portuguese of John Calvin's 'Institutes'. Another interesting sidelight occurred when Dr. J.A. Mackay (head of Princeton Theological Seminary in N.J.) spoke at Prague's Bethlehem Chapel, where the 15th century Bohemian martyr Jan Hus preached for some ten years. It was the first Protestant sermon to be delivered there, since 1620. The chapel was recently restored by the Czech government as a 'working class shrine'.

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NEW CREATES APOSTOLIC EXARCHATE FOR THE BYZANTINE-RITE IN THE U.S. Stamford, Conn. was created as a new exarchate by the Pope at Vatican City, last month. Bishop Joseph Senyshyn will be its first Exarch. Stamford was formerly a part of the Philadelphia Exarchate under Archbishop Constantine Bohachevsky. The third existing Exarchate is that of New York, under Bishop Nicholas T. Elko. The three exarchates contain an Eastern Rite membership of some 462,000. The Pittsburgh Exarchate embraces all Eastern Rite Catholics of Russian, Ukrainian and Croatian nationalities in the U.S.

BENEDICTINES CALL FOR REUNION OF ROMAN CATHOLIC AND EASTERN ORTHODOXY. Abbot Ambrose L. Ondrak of St. Procopius Abbey in Lisle, Illinois announced plans for a religious unity congress this month, with its aim that of bringing Rome and Eastern Orthodox Churches together.

He stated that invitations have been sent to leaders of the Russian, Ukrainian, Serbian and Romanian Orthodox Churches, as well as to leaders of the Roman Catholic hierarchy. The date for the Congress is to be September 28-30.



The Abbot said: 'The desire for union of Christian Churches is greater than ever now, in the midst of a titanic struggle between forces of the Christian world against the might of godless materialism. To achieve this union, it is necessary to bridge the gulf that has separated these Eastern Churches, tragically dividing the Apostolic Church into two estranged camps'.

• The Roman Church became estranged from the Holy Orthodox Church thru a number of schisms and minor heresies that culminated with the Great Schism in 1054. Valid Orders have been considered to have been maintained, however, in Rome, thru the consecration of bishops in Apostolic Succession. ED.

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CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS DIVIDED BECAUSE OF WRONG UNDERSTANDING OF CATHOLICITY, according to Dr. Svend Lerfeldt, a Lutheran theologian from Denmark. Speaking at a regional theological conference at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn., sponsored by the Lutheran World Federation, the Doctor said:

'The Roman Catholic view assigns authority to the Pope for maintaining and expounding the Revelation.'

'The Orthodox Church considers herself the whole and only Catholic Church and as such claims infallibility.'

'Old Catholics and Anglicans, while emphasizing tradition, both acknowledge the supreme authority of Holy Scripture as controlling any appeal to tradition and both admit the fallibility of the Ecumenical Councils'.

'Protestants accept the ultimate ground of authority as God Himself as revealed in the work and person of Jesus Christ. Christ Himself is the content of the Word. It is this Word which must be the ultimate standard of faith and practice, and this Word alone'.

• Drs. Lerfeldt, Gloege, Narum, Lauha, Echternach comprised part of the remaining team of speakers who are to conduct similar lectures at Augustana College (Sioux Falls, S.D.) and at San Antonio, Texas. Earlier they were at Spokane, Wash. ED.

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FAMED OIL PAINTERS OF RELIGIOUS SUBJECTS are well known to most Americans, although not because of their religious work. In Tarrytown, N.Y., a little church of 150 members received the last major work of Henri Matisse recently. The Union Church of Pocantico Hills dedicated a tri-colored, stained glass window to the memory of the late wife of John D. Rockefeller Jr. The artist designed the piece just prior to his death in November, 1954 at the age of 84.

In another bit of news, Willem L. Van Dijk, a direct descendant of Sir Anthony Van Dyck, arrived in New York and disclosed that he had painted a 'Cristo' every Sunday of his life since he was given a box of paints at the age of four. 'I spend my Sundays....painting new heads of Christ or finishing one started the previous Sunday.' 'I do so, in thanksgiving for God's gifts to me'. Dark haired, blue-eyed and wearing the type of pointed black beard named after his illustrious forebearer, Mr. Van Dijk, who speaks more than a dozen languages, told reporters he was here to arrange exhibitions of his work in various cities. He brought 75 canvases with him. His work is representational in form; and his landscapes are reminiscent of the Dutch and Flemish school.

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WASHINGTON D.C. CHAPEL FEATURES JUKEBOX OF FAVORITE HYMNS. A Wayside Chapel, opened by the Mount Vernon Place Methodist Church, at sidewalk level, features all-glass doors which give passersby the illusion that there is no door at all. At night, the chapel is lighted with soft indirect illumination. Upon entering the chapel for meditation or prayer, the visitor can push a button and select one of a dozen of hymns which will then play softly in the background. Dr. Albert P. Shirkey, pastor, feels that a real service is rendered to the public by giving them the beauty and setting to stimulate prayer.

MOSCOW PATRIARCH AWARDS HONOR TO AMERICAN - SYRIAN METROPOLITAN
Anthony Bashir, who is head of a part of the Antiochian Orthodox Church in North America. Patriarch Alexei of the Moscow Communist Church delegated the V. Rev. J. Havriliak, archpriest of the Russian Patriarchal Church of North America to make the award.

At a ceremony at St. Nicholas Cathedral in N.Y.C., Metropolitan Bashir ordained a new priest for the Patriarchal Church, the Rev. A. Wornovich, and was then invested himself with the white veil and klobuk(headpiece) of a Russian Orthodox Metropolitan and a panagia mounted on a gold chain, which is worn around the neck. Bashir is the first non-Russian bishop to ever receive such an award.

The award was presented in recognition of his 'friendship and cooperation' toward the Patriarchal Communist Russian Orthodox Church. It is well known that Metropolitan Bashir has rendered many favors to the Patriarchal Church in America by ordaining and burying clergy for them, inasmuch as they have no bishop of their own here,(see AREO January, 1956) the U.S. State Dep't. refusing to admit one.

• A strong plea for union of all Eastern Orthodox Churches in America had been issued some three weeks prior to this award by Metropolitan Bashir at the 11th annual convention of the Syrian Orthodox Church of North America, which was held in Montreal. He also had appealed to the 1000 delegates attending the convention to avoid identifying their religion with any nationalistic or political movement. (Apparently, it seems from occurrences, the Metropolitan is ignoring his own admonition) ED.

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GREEK ORTHODOX PRIEST, REVEREND GEORGE MASTRANTONIS, APPEALS FOR UNITY
among all Eastern Orthodox Churches in America. In a five page document, the Greek priest sets forth an outline statement for the union of efforts and activities of the 6,000,000 Orthodox peoples in America. In the appeal, he calls for a federated committee of all Orthodox bodies, which will maintain permanent offices with a series of services to be rendered:

- .A division for public relations and information.
- .A missions and religious education service.
- .i.Facilities to function on the level of parishes and local memberships.
- .v.Service to coordinate work of priests and evangelical workers.
- .Service to study finances and resources.

quoting a few excerpts from the statement: 'The autocephalous Churches...in America are continuing the systems of the lands from which they sprang and, as such, are not yet equal to the task of erasing the 'stigma of stagnancy'.....If we, the priests and hierarchs....had the same enthusiasm and sincere desire for the expansion and promulgation of the purely religious teachings which we put forward for our national language, country of origin, and our local national customs and habits, which, worst of all, we have disguised in the garb of religion, then the Church of Christ will become outstanding in missionary works and social action....'

• The idea of Reverend Mastrantonis bears great merit, but, as he states, nationalism may be too great a blockage. Unfortunately, love of power and position, vain as it may be, still rules the hierarchy of the Orthodox Church and prevents unity. As Dean James Pike, Protestant Episcopal, of St. John Divine Cathedral in N.Y.C. said recently: Christian unity is 'deadlocked' at the top. With this in mind, it becomes, then, a problem to be worked out on the level of the people themselves. Put forward the problem to the individual person; let them know facts and truth; people ordinarily will not allow themselves to be ruled by autocracy and corruption once they become aware of it. This should be one of the positive ways of attacking the problem. ED.

Note: For those who wish an excellent treatise, prepared by this same Rev. Mastrantonis, on 'What is the Eastern Orthodox Church', send 40¢ to OLOGOS, P.O. Box 8323, Chicago 7, Illinois)

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BISHOP EZEKIEL OFFICIATES AT 50th ANNIVERSARY OF ST. SPYRIDON GREEK
Church in Sheboygan, Wisconsin on September 16th. St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church was built in 1906 and altho few of the original membership are left, the church has seen great progress from those early days. Rev. Fr. Lolakas has been in charge for the last ten years, but is retiring the end of this year, due to age. His work will live on in the memory of those who know him well.

• For those who would like recordings of the Divine Liturgy, Fr. Lolakas has made a series which are available to any who might wish to purchase them for their own use or for music courses in College or local levels. ED.

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THE GREEK CONVENTIONS OF AHEPA AND PAN ARCADIAN FEDERATION IN NEW YORK. In the month of August, New York City saw the gathering of thousands of Greek-Americans at two successive conventions.

The Pan Arcadian Federation of America, representing more than 200,000 Americans of Greek origin or descent, marked its silver anniversary at its annual convention, held this year at the Statler Hotel in N.Y.C. Eight hundred delegates from throughout the country attended. Aside from business at hand, gold medal awards were given to Ivy Baker Priest, Treasurer of the U.S., and to Dimitri Mitropoulos, conductor of the N.Y. Philharmonic Symphony.

The American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association(AHEPA), with 10,000 members in attendance, observed its 30th annual convention. Established in 1922 by eight young Greek Americans in Atlanta, Ga. the fraternity emphasizes the many contributions made by their people to the political and charitable life of America. The convention opened in Central Park, N.Y.C. on the Mall with the observance of the Divine Liturgy, Bishops Athenagoras and Germanos being the celebrants, with priests from 23 churches in the area participating. The convention continued for a week, with its headquarters at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, N.Y.C. One of the main objectives of AHEPA is: 'To resist, by lawful means and methods, any tendency towards a union between the civil government and any church or religion, and to repel the interference of any religion in governmental affairs.' AHEPA has ladies auxiliaries as well as men's groups. They are known as 'Daughters of Penelope'(adult) and 'Maidens of Athens'(Junior). The junior group of boys(up to 21 years of age) is known as 'Sons of Pericles'.

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13th BIENNIAL CONGRESS OF GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH TO MEET SEPTEMBER 3 to October 6th at the Sheraton Park Hotel in Washington D.C. His Eminence Archbishop Michael will preside. He will be assisted by the seven regional bishops of the hierarchy of the Church in the Americas.

The Congress is the official deliberating body of the Greek Orthodox Church and will be attended by more than 1500 delegates: each Parish being represented by its priest, the president of the local Board of Trustees and by two other parish laymen.

It is anticipated that this year's Congress will be one of the most significant in years, as, according to the Archbishop: 'it will touch on many singularly important matters effecting the activities and welfare of the Greek Orthodox Church in North and South America'.

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GREEK SEMINARY AUTHORIZED TO GRANT B.D. and S.T.M. DEGREE
The Board of Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts voted authorization to the Holy Cross Theological School in Brookline, Mass. the Certification necessary to allow the School to bestow Bachelor of Divinity and Master of Sacred Theology degrees on students, as of June 26, 1956.

The school already has the authority to bestow the Bachelor of Arts degree. This action places the school in equal rank with other similar theological schools throughout the U.S. In addition, the school is now eligible for Scholarships and Fellowships offered by various educational foundations and agencies for the advancement of learning and research.

Last June Commencement exercises marked the first time in the school's nineteen year existence that it granted degrees recognized by the Board of Education of Massachusetts.

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RUSSIAN CHURCH IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA SEEKS A BELL.
S.S. Peter & Paul Church at 1614 E. Monte Vista has an enlarged chapel, with a fine bell tower, but no bell. Fr. Zaychenko, pastor of the Church, under Metropolitan Leonty, came here in 1951 and organized a following among 27 unaffiliated Orthodox people. Today, he has a following of 50.

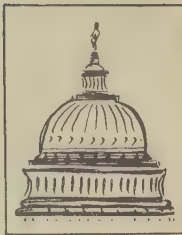
In Russian usage, it is customary to ring the bell of the Church twelve times before Services commence on Sunday morn, and again six times before the actual start of the Divine Liturgy proper. It is also sounded during the Liturgy at established points.

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CHURCH AND STATE



GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE OF THE MADHYA PRADESH State in Central India has recommended that all the foreign missionaries engaged primarily in proselytizing be withdrawn from the country.

urged also that the Indian government constitution be amended to give only citizens of India the right to engage in religious propaganda, and to outlaw all conversions brought about by force, fraud or other illicit means.' The Committee report, released in summary form by the All-India Radio, stated that the Christians and their missions were being used, in some cases, to revive 'Western Supremacy'. Another recommendation asked that all properties now registered in the name of a foreign mission body be transferred to national churches, or to building-bodies.

The Committee elaborated that it had spent some two years investigating the problem and had visited 77 centers, interviewed 11,350 persons, received written statements from 375 others and held committee hearings for representatives of 700 villages. The report particularly accused the International Missionary Council of planned and deliberate invasion of, and exploitation of, the constitutional provisions of religious freedom; and further, that these missionaries are not solely engaged in religious purposes, but are being used to serve extra-religious ends, in spite of prior assurances given by those in authority over them.

The International Missionary Council is composed of national Protestant missionary bodies and Christian Councils in some 35 countries. It has headquarters in N.Y. and London. ED.

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TWO ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS ATTACK POLITICAL IMMORALITY OF QUEBEC government. The Reverends G. Dion and L. O'Neill of Laval University, Quebec issued a tract in 'Ad Usam Sacerdotum', a publication for priests with a circulation of 700, of which the following comprises the essentials :

The two priests charged that the techniques of the systematic lie, perfected by Hitler and now employed by the Communists, has become a political habit in Quebec. Practices of buying votes, corruption of the electoral law, threats of reprisal against those not supporting the 'right party', false oaths, substitution of persons, bribery of election officers all numbered in their list of moral issues. The priests stated: 'What makes a Christian country is not primarily the number of churches, pious statements of politicians, apparent temporal and political influence of the Church, or good relations between Church and State. It is primarily the respect of truth, integrity of conscience and respect for freedom. The danger is even greater', they added, in that 'such evidence shows that the conscience of the faithful and even that of members of religious orders no longer finds cause to be shocked by such corruption.'

It takes courage to say such things, but even more to ascertain the reasons why these occur in strong Church areas of domination. For instance, the United Nations reported some time ago that prostitution was highest in Pakistan and second highest in Italy. ED.

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UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BODIES AGREE TO BOW TO EGYPTIAN EDICT. The Church's American Mission in Egypt 'will teach the Islamic religion to their Moslem pupils. This was disclosed in a statement issued by Dr. G.P. Reed, foreign secretary of the denominations Board of Foreign Missions. He said they faced the alternative of complying with the law or losing the schools as Christian institutions, thru their being taken over by the government. In the face of this choice, one of the chief considerations was that the 4,000 pupils of Christian parentage enrolled in the 11 schools operated by them should not be deprived of the privilege of a Christian education.

The government order to take effect in 1957. About 2,000 schools in Egypt are subject to the law. They serve about 500,000 students. So far, Coptic, Episcopal and Presbyterian have agreed to abide by the ruling. Roman Catholic have not yet given their answer. ED.



establishment of diplomatic relations between Greece and the Vatican. The decision was announced after a number of Orthodox bishops met with Foreign Minister Averof in Athens.



Apparently this action did not suit some members of the government, for intimation has been given that new talks will start on the question 'very soon'. Foreign Minister Averof explained that such diplomatic relations would make Greece accessible to receiving help from Roman Catholic communities in Europe and the U.S.

an Catholic communities in Europe and the U.S.

● According to the Ministry of Social Welfare, in Athens, one in every three inhabitants of Greece lives below the minimum subsistence level. Out of 8 million people, $2\frac{1}{2}$ million earn less than 4 drachmas a day (14¢). A half million others have an income of up to 6 drachmas a day (21¢). At present, the government appears to be doing nothing to improve the condition. At least 200,000 workers are unemployed and 1,500,000 underemployed. From this it can be understood why the government will be friends to anyone who will give them monies. ED.

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ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS HAS BEEN GIVEN FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT IN EXILE.

'Kypros', Greek newspaper of Nicosia, states that he is no longer confined to his villa of San Souci, but can go anywhere in the islands, as long as he gives prior notice. The paper added that the Archbishop is soon to be flown to England for talks on the proposed constitution for Cyprus.

Meanwhile, Athens Radio hammers on the point that the British are preparing a dum-dum trial for the Archbishop, if all else fails, and thus have prepared the 'forged' papers that the Archbishop is in reality the head of EOKA terrorism in Cyprus. The purpose of the trial will be to shift world-wide criticism from themselves to a scape-goat.

● To this Editor it appears that the garrisoning of troops of the French Armed Forces on Cyprus is not really for the Suez crisis, but rather to involve France in the terrorism acts and thus gain French public opinion to the side of the British. ED.

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THREE HUNDRED SIGNPOSTS TO BE ERECTED BY ISRAEL to mark sites of Biblical and historical interest thruout the country. The signs are designed to aid tourists and form an active visual identification between the modern Israeli state and the ancient Kingdom of Israel. The markers will be six feet high and two feet wide at the top, narrowing down to 18 inches at the bottom. Lettering in English and Hebrew will describe the historical importance of each site. The first sign erected is the one pointing out Sodom on the shore of the Dead Sea. Another has been placed at the site where David slew Goliath. Directing the project is a modern war hero and archaeologist: General Yigael Yadin.

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LEGALIZED ABORTION IN POLAND PRODUCES DEMAND IN EXCESS OF FACILITIES

The law, passed last May by Parliament, was brought about after the Ministry of Health revealed that 300,000 abortions occur yearly in Poland, with some 80,000 women being treated for complications therefrom. The Warsaw Radio stated that the Ministry of Health has now developed a machine, which, with the aid of ultrasonic vibrations, makes abortion possible without surgical pain.

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ARCHBISHOP TIRAN NERSOYAN EXPELLED FROM OLD JERUSALEM BY JORDAN on charges of allegedly 'maintaining relations with Soviet Armenia'. The Archbishop, 2nd rank prelate of the Armenian Apostolic Church in the Holy Land and an American citizen, has been living at the Monastery of St. James ever since he resigned as Primate of the Armenian Church in North America in 1954 because of ill-health.

In New York, Archbishop Mampre Calfayan, present Primate of North America, said the charges were 'obviously false'. He said the correspondence with the Holy See in Etchmiadzin does not mean correspondence with the Soviet government.

RAL MOUNTAIN CATHEDRALS AND CHURCHES BEING RESTORED BY SOVIET, according to Moscow Radio. The shrines to be restored include the Cathedrals in Solikamsk, Izhmardyn and Troitsky, and the Nikol'skaya in Nyrob, which dates back to the 17th century.

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RELIGIOUS FRICTION AMONG LEBANON'S POPULATION CAUSES POLITICAL STRIFE turn. As is often the case where many strong religious parties exist within one country, controversy arises. In Lebanon, where the country is about evenly divided between Moslem faithful (500,000) and Christians (700,000), a trend is developing to cause the government to enact a law allowing suspension of newspapers and magazines when articles may be construed to be likely to stir up ill-will among the rival factions.

• This is the only Arab state in which Christians outnumber Moslems. The President always being a Christian, but the Cabinet Ministry being parceled out on a party and religious affiliation basis. The Christian majority is divided roughly as follows: Maronites (375,000) - Greek Orthodox (135,000) - Armenians (85,000) - Roman Catholic and Eastern Rite Catholics (80,000) - Protestant (25,000). ED.

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COPTIC PATRIARCH ANBA YOUSSEF II WAS REINSTATED BY HOLY SYNOD of Egypt as the spiritual leader of the 6,000,000 Copts of Egypt, Ethiopia and other countries. He had been relieved of his duties last September, after certain bishops and the lay Coptic Community Council had voted to depose him. Their action was taken when the Patriarch stood in the way of reforms in Church administration, which they had been demanding.

Following the action of the Holy Synod, President Nasser dissolved the Coptic Community Council and ordered new elections of its membership to be held within three months. He did this in the name of harmony, because the Council had refused to ratify the Synod's action.

The apparent reason behind the reinstatement of the Patriarch was the strong pressure exerted by Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia and a delegation of Ethiopian bishops, who came to Cairo last December over the affair.

• With the headwaters of the Nile lying within Ethiopian borders and the undoubted permission of Emperor Selassie necessary for the erection of the Nile dam proposed by President Nasser, one can readily envision the willingness of Nasser to reverse his previous stand of allowing the exile of the Patriarch to take place. Thus does politics influence religion and visa versa. ED.

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RELIGION ON POSTAGE STAMPS is the subject of the formation of the COROS (Committee on Religion on Stamps) and its issuing of an Annual Award for Postal Stamps of the World. The First Annual Award (1956) was tendered to the Saar for its stamp depicting Albrecht Durer's famous painting of the 'Praying Hands'. The winning stamp was selected by mail ballot from more than a score of issues nominated for top honors. Awards, in the form of certificates, were sent to postal officials of the countries honored.

Other awards went to a set of four stamps honoring Dr. Albert Schweitzer, famed missionary, on his 80th birthday (issued by the Principality of Monaco). A Spanish Guinea issue showing a native priest saying Mass; issued in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Apostolic Prefecture of Fernando Po. An Israel issue depicting the lighted menorah, a seven-branch candlestick use in synagogues.

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PRESIDENT EISENHOWER SIGNED INTO LAW 'REDUCED FARE' BILL FOR CLERGY. The new legislation permits airlines to offer lower rates on a 'space available' basis so that clergy will not be able to make reservations for flights, but must wait at the airport to see if space is available, i.e. - if they wish to take advantage of the saving in fare. This plan will not go into effect, however, until the C.A.B. and airlines have drafted regulations for issuance of application forms and rules of practice.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE INCLUDES RELIGIOUS OR NON-PROFIT CHILD care institutions as eligible to participate in its Special Milk Program. This provides government subsidies for milk served in excess of one-half pint a day to each child.

- Information may be obtained by communicating with the U.S. Dep't. of Agriculture. ED.

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BIRMINGHAM CLERGYMEN SERVE AS MEMBERS OF POLICE FORCE. Four clergymen combine their ministry with police duties. The Reverends Rawlings, Reeves, Shoemaker and Gregg double as Church pastors, when not pursuing their occupation as city police officers. Three of the men are Baptists and the fourth is a Methodist.

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IN THE COURTS



GREEK EVANGELICALS APPEAL TO Supreme State Court against a government order stopping work on the rebuilding of the First Evangelical Church of Athens. The Church, established nearly

100 years ago, is the oldest house of worship of the Evangelical Church in Greece. Its rebuilding had been delayed by lack of funds, until a grant last July from the World Council of Churches made it possible to begin the work. Previously the Ministry of Cults had issued an approval for the construction, after securing the consent of the late Archbishop Spyridon of Athens. (The Greek Law requires consent of the Athens Archdiocese for the erection of a non-Orthodox Church).

- In connection with this news, a letter, received on August 1st, 1956, is here given in part so that comments may be offered by readers, if they wish, on the points covered therein. As AREO is primarily a Religious News publication, it offers News-Facts and Opinions. It is, of course, impossible to please all readers all the time, inasmuch as varieties of opinions do not always agree. It is hoped that this is understood. ED.

August 1, 1956

'Reading over Vol. II June No. VI, on the first page where you write from 'In Hamburg, German and so on, the Orthodox Church believes the Holy Bible is infallible. The theory or idea which against the teachings of the Holy Bible is from the evil spirit. The Holy Bible says: 'From Adam until the present time is 7,464 years.' You write: 'Dr. Alfred Rust said his discovery indicates that Man inhabited northern Europe between 2,000,000 and 5,000,000 years ago. Now, whom should we believe, the Holy Bible, Dr. Rust or yourselves, who printed this in your monthly review? The reader of your review will either throw away the review or the Holy Bible for the simple reason that it is not teaching the truth. We advise you as an Orthodox to write in accordance with the Orthodox Faith.....in the same review you write on page five the third paragraph 'Greek Evangelicals Acquitted by Berea Court.' You state that you editors are Orthodox in Faith, but at the same time you blame the actions of the Orthodox police against the Evangelicals. What kind of Orthodox are you? Are you propagandizing for the Heretics? The Greek police did the order of God and are to be congratulated for their work, but not to be blamed. Only the Heretics can be blamed, not the Orthodox people. To learn Orthodoxy read the book of Apostolic Makrakis we sent you.'

K. Andronis

Chicago 13, Illinois

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ITALIAN PROTESTANTS WIN SECOND COURT FIGHT OVER RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

Italy's new Constitutional Court handed down a ruling in favor of Rev. G. Pizzo, an Assemblies of God minister. He had been imprisoned for refusing to leave the town of Alcamo, where he held religious services.

This was the second decision bearing on the rights of Protestants in Italy to be handed down by the Constitutional Court. In a recent ruling, it upheld the rights of Protestants to distribute leaflets and to display signs publicly without prior police authorization.

ISHOP ORESTES CHORNOCK CELEBRATES 50th ANNIVERSARY of his Ordination to the Priesthood, August 26th, 1956 saw the Celebration of the Divine Liturgy by the Bishop at the half-million dollar Christ the Saviour Cathedral in Johnstown, Penna.

Bishop Orestes is the spiritual head of some 75,000 Carpatho-Russian-Americans. He began his spiritual ministrations after his graduation from the Theological Academy of Presov, Czechoslovakia. As the Carpatho-Russian people migrated to America, then Father Orestes also came in November of 1908. Since those days, he has served in parishes in Illinois, Ohio, Penna., and lastly, for 45 years, in S. John's Church in Bridgeport, Conn.

• Prior to the 17th century, the Carpatho-Russians were Orthodox, but thru political means were forced to become 'Uniates', in Union with Rome. Here in America, the Roman Church denied these people the right to continue in having the traditional married priesthood, the right of the people to own their churches, the right to choose their own pastors, and the right to continue in the traditional Calendar observances of their native land. This led to a schism from Rome on Nov. 23, 1937 and an official acceptance back to Orthodoxy by the Patriarch of Constantinople on Sep't. 18, 1938, with Father Chornock being consecrated a Bishop to administer to the needs of the people. He has, today, 50 parishes and \$100,000 Seminary. **ED.**

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R.O.C. MEET IN 30th ANNUAL CONVENTION at Philadelphia, Penna. This Convention of the Federated Russian Orthodox Clubs was held in the 'City of Brotherly Love' from August 30th to September 3rd.

Metropolitan Leonty, in his Archpastoral Invocation called upon the FROC for continued growth to a 'yet fuller consciousness of strength and aims.'

• FROC is an organization, functioning nationwide thru local chapters, of the young people of the Russian Orthodox Church in America, one of three Russian jurisdictions in the U.S., and also the largest of the three. **ED.**

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BROADCAST YOUR MESSAGE !

Churches Must Use Radio In Preaching, was the theme of Dr. Roy O. McClain at the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. He pointed out that Radio reaches 'millions who are never present at church'.

Theological Seminaries Should Sponsor Special Courses in 'Religious TV', according to John Daly, American Broadcasting Company vice-president. He suggested that seminaries teach practical TV techniques so that those entering the ministry will be 'properly equipped to transmit religious concepts successfully to the TV audience'.

A More Adequate Presentation of Religion Needed on Radio and TV. This was the emphasis of a state-wide survey made by the Ohio Council of Churches in declaring the results. The survey was conducted among managers of the state's 81 Radio and 20 TV Stations. The Station Executives suggested more programs of religious news, panel discussions, interviews, music and quiz shows instead of 'live' church services, especially the 'sermon-type' show.

Protestant Churches fail to Recognize the Importance of Mass Communication in American Life was declared by Dr. Dallas W. Smythe, Professor of the University of Southern California. Dr. Smythe said: 'Americans spend more time on TV, newspapers and magazines, comic books, motion pictures and RADIO than any other single thing, other than sleeping and perhaps working. And yet the Protestant churches act as though these things weren't so'.

Churches Only 'Dimly Aware' of the Opportunity of Mass Communication was the acknowledgement made by Rev. Alexander B. Ferguson, director of films for the National Council's Broadcasting and Film Commission.

With these thoughts, by prominent leaders in Religious Life, in mind, is it any wonder that local churches are, in general, doing very little to reach the mass of people thru RADIO and TV. What, for instance, are your Seminaries and your own Church doing? If interested in going forward with New Ideas,

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